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## Telehealth/Telemedicine Report

The California Telehealth/Telemedicine Coordination Project has published the findings of its 2-year study. Titled "Telehealth & Telemedicine: *Taking Distance*

*Out of Caring,"* this comprehensive publication contains a concise history and explanation of telehealth and telemedicine infrastructure and applications; addresses the policy, regulatory and legislative issues related to telemedicine; a program development guide for planning and implementing telehealth and telemedicine systems; current telemedicine sites in California; and extensive resource listings including those on the Internet.

A spiral bound copy of the report is available for \$25 by contacting:

The California Health Collaborative Foundation  
1625 East Shaw Avenue  
Suite 155  
Fresno, CA 93710-8100  
Phone: (209) 244-4527

The report is also available on the Internet at address: <http://www.catelehealth.org/report.htm>

# Rural Health Newscast

Office of the Rural Health Policy Council  
Health & Welfare Agency  
State Of California

March 20, 1997

## Our First Newscast!

Welcome to the first issue of the Rural Health Newscast. The Newscast was created in order to provide information about rural health to rural constituents. Please let us know if the Newscast is helpful to you and what types of information you would like to see included in future issues.

The Newscast will be published as we acquire information that is useful to our readers.

## RHPC Home Page "Alive" on the World Wide Web

Visit us on the Web with links to Council departments, funding sources, "Jobs Available" Program, and others. Our address:

<http://www.ruralhealth.cahwnet.gov>

## Rural Health Policy Council

The Council was created by Sandra R. Smoley, R.N., Secretary of the Health and Welfare Agency to be the focal point where rural health issues from all sectors would receive high level attention and deliberation.

The members of the Rural Health Policy Council are the directors of five departments within the Health and Welfare Agency: Andrew Mecca, Dr. P.H., Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs; S. Kimberly Belshé, Department of Health Services; Stephen Mayberg, Ph.D., Department of Mental Health; David Werdegard, M.D., M.P.H., Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development; and Emergency Medical Services Authority.

## Rural Health Policy Council 1997 Schedule of Public Meetings

3/21	Tenaya Lodge, Fish Camp, 9:30 am - 11:30 am (held in conjunction with the California Healthcare Association/Rural Health Center Symposium and the California State Rural Health Association meeting)
June	Sacramento (day, time and location TBA)
Sept	Indio (day, time and location TBA)
Nov	Burlingame (held in conjunction with the California State Association of Counties annual meeting)

## WE'VE GOT IT!

Rural Health issues brought to the attention of the Rural Health Policy Council via letter, telephone call, fax, e-mail or meeting will be acknowledged as received within 2 weeks.

Please direct your concerns to the address, phone number, fax number, or e-mail address on the return address side of this publication.

## The Rural Health Policy Council Announces the Rural Hospital Services Grant Awards



Biggs-Gridley Memorial	\$67,827
Mark Twain St. Joseph's	53,407
Sonora Community	59,962
Colusa Community	62,417
Marshall	231,154
Sierra Kings	10,025
Redwood Memorial	97,063
West Side District	48,182
Hanford Community	241,727
Sutter-Lakeside Community	151,843
Redbud Community	88,204
Lassen Community	33,126
Avalon Municipal	3,880
Ukiah Valley Medical Center	325,778
Mendocino Coast District	177,006
Frank R. Howard Memorial	86,331
Surprise Valley Community	1,962
Mammoth	14,148
George L. Mee Memorial	34,754
Indian Valley	26,443
Palo Verde	25,729
San Geronio Pass Memorial	17,304
Hazel Hawkins Memorial	56,959
Hi-Desert Medical Center	32,795
Fallbrook Hospital District	52,689
Lompoc District	24,421
Mercy of Mt. Shasta	50,175
Oak Valley	11,914
St. Elizabeth Community	148,673
Tuolumne General	264,102
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,500,000</b>

Congratulations to the 30 hospitals who received awards and our thanks for participating in the program.

## Widespread Interest in Rural Health Grants Program!

Applicants for the Rural Health Services Grant Program were well represented by rural California. Entities in 24 counties submitted applications for the collaborative grants and applicants for the small grants came from 31 counties.

Thanks to those who submitted complete applications on time.

# Rural Health Newscast

## Interdepartmental Rural Health Coordinating Committee

The Committee is composed of 23 managers from 7 departments within California's Health and Welfare Agency and the Governor's Office. The Committee is staff to the Rural Health Policy Council and as such is responsible for resolving rural health issues and presenting rural health policy matters to the Council for action and decision.

Remember, the next Public Meeting of the Committee is...

5/16 2pm - 4pm  
Hollister Community  
Center  
300 West Street  
Hollister



## Office of the Rural Health Policy Council

As the focal point on rural health, the Office performs many functions including facilitating coordination and communication between state departments and agencies, constituent organizations, rural health providers and other parties with a stake in rural health.

In addition to supporting the Council and Committee, the Office is highly service-oriented, responds to requests for assistance with issues, and provides information on rural health.

The Office is staffed by Fred I. Johnson, Liaison, Rural Health Programs; Patricia Dixon, Issues Coordinator; Kathleen Maestas, Employment Coordinator; and Deborah Penny, Executive Assistant.

## List Those Jobs

The Rural Health Policy Council Office continues to list health provider and administrative positions in rural California through the "Jobs Available" Program. To post an opening or obtain a listing of available positions, please call Kathleen Maestas at 1-800-237-4492 and ask for the advertisement form.

This listing can also be accessed on the Internet using the address: <http://www.ruralhealth.cahwnet.gov/ruraljob>

Since the inception of the program, providers in 27 counties have submitted advertisements. There are currently 76 ads of which 47 are patient care, 22 are administrative, and 7 are ancillary. Thirteen positions have been filled, 12 of which were administrative and one was patient care.



The Primary Care Division of the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development works closely with the Jobs Available Program to match graduates of Physician Assistant, Nurse Practitioner, and Certified Nurse Midwife programs to the listings in the Jobs Available Program.



For information call: Ernie Sanchez of CALSAMMP at (916) 654-1836.

## Rural Health Newscast



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